

09/13/2023 SGA General Meeting Minutes

[Wednesday, 9/13/2022]

Meeting called to order on September 13 at [Time am/pm] on ASB 135.

I. Roll Call

- a. President Shannon DeCicco
- b. Vice President Victor Oluwagmeni
- c. Secretary Pranish Khanal
- d. Treasurer Riley Stein
- e. Chief of Staff Paige Duell
- f. Secretary of Academic Affairs Bibhu Bhatta
- g. Secretary of Commuter Affairs Alan Rosenberg
- h. Secretary of Delegate Affairs Sophia Kopreski
- i. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion Madison Case
- a. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life Luis Saenz
- j. Secretary of Governmental Affairs James Pascal
- k. Secretary of Programming Christine Defeo
- l. Secretary of Public Relations Oliver Mejia
- m. Secretary of Residential Affairs Agrim Gupta
- n. Secretary of Sustainability Kristen Senesi
- o. Secretary of Service Stefanie Viera
- p. Chief Justice Liz Mendicino
- q. Conduct Justice
- r. Procedural Justice Lena Mardini
- s. Senate President/ SSHS School Senator Madison Weeks
- t. Senate Vice President/ TAS School Senator Evelyn Voitsekhovich
- u. Senate Secretary Andrew Taranta
- v. ASB School Senator: Nicole Cohen
- w. CA School Senator: Desiree Bounds

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- x. HGS School Senator: Stephen Raymond
- y. Senator Janelle Boamah
- z. Senator Katelynn Haury
- aa. Senator Sara Hosbach
- bb. Senator Mihir Jariwala
- cc. Senator Patricia Kalaidjian
- dd. Senator Shanel Lopez
- ee. Senator Amanda Shortt
- ff. Graduate Senator
- gg. Student Governor Natalie Barr
- hh. Alternate Student Governor
- ii. Student Trustee Gloria Jeong
- jj. Alternate Student Trustee
 - i. Present:
 - ii. Late:
 - iii. Excused: Katelynn, Paige, Madison
 - iv. Absent:

II. Mission Statement (Read by Liz)

The Ramapo College Student Government Association serves as the persistent voice of the student body. While representing the student body and the ideals of Ramapo College of New Jersey, the Student Government Association, through unity in diversity, embraces student leadership in all forms.

III. Land Acknowledgement (Read by Liz)

The Student Government Association respectfully acknowledges that we are hosting our meeting on the ancestral and traditional Indigenous territory of the Ramapough Lunaape Nation.

IV. Approving Minute Meetings

- a. Minutes from [9/6/2023](#)
 - i. Moved by Janelle
 - ii. Seconded by Stephen
 - iii. 10-0-0

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V. New Business

a. Provost Middleton

- i. Provost is responsible for looking into academic affairs within the campus. He arrived in April, and was previously at Hunter College and University of New Hampshire. Led Hunter through pandemic, and is in Ramapo for a new challenge.
- ii. We are in the middle of finishing the Comprehensive Academic Plan. Four main things in the plan
 1. Centre Teaching and Learning on Campus
 2. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
 3. Community Engagement
 4. Focus on Faculty Development
- iii. We need to rethink our advising on campus. Discussion of incorporating Artificial Intelligence going on between Provost and faculty. AI should be implemented in a way that helps both teaching and learning experiences in the classroom. Academic Integrity on campus was also recently updated to include use of AI in classrooms.
- iv. Q/A
 1. Desiree: Make a google form and ask people what they currently feel about advising. What is the best way to send it to people ?
 - a. A: There could be mass information gathering. Maybe put it in Daily Digest, social media and other advertisements to let people fill out the form rather than sending email to people.
 2. Andrew: Is there going to be a standard for use of AI or is it going to be flexible depending on classes and professor?
 - a. A: Depending on disciplines, they might have different uses of AI and it is going to be different in each class depending on assignments and discipline. Students can ask faculty what they allow in classrooms. Faculty can talk with colleagues to talk about how they want students to use AI in their discipline. Our responsibility is to make policies that help you use it instead of punishing it.
 3. Liz: There is no lot of Double Major support on campus and I have difficulty majoring in time.
 - a. A: We have to figure it out and thank you for raising the point.
 4. Christine: How can we as SGA can help you in what you want to do?
 - a. A: Please feel free to come and talk during office hours. Talk to professors and deans, advocate for yourself.
 5. I would love to come and sit in classes to see student experiences. You can talk to your professors and invite the provost to classes you take.
 6. Madi: What kind of training do advisors and faculty get and need?
 - a. A: They go through a rigorous interview and onboarding process. They are reflective practitioners and do get training to do the job they need.
 7. Janelle: There is not a lot of communication between EOF advisor and faculty advisor.
 - a. Information about students can be recorded on Connect and can be used to keep history of students so each advice does not have to start from scratch. We can make it possible that there are meetings with both advisors and to establish

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- the connection.
8. Agrim: How do we each plan effectively?
 - a. 4 Year plans are like guidance that can be followed but students can sort of decide for themselves if they want to do something with it and make a tweak to it.
 9. Sarah: Transfer students lack advice and do not have academic advisors.
 - a. There is an academic advisor now and it is for fall incoming transfer students. However, incoming students for spring semester are not advised much.

VI. President's Announcements

- a. September is Suicide Prevention Month
 - i. Visit the [Counseling Services Website](#) for information on the programming happening this month.
 - ii. Services Offered through counseling services
 1. [UWill](#)
 - a. Free telehealth counseling
 2. [Togetherall](#)
 - a. Free Anonymous, 24/7 Peer Support
- b. Office Hours Reminder. If you have to miss or make up your office hours contact Secretary Pranish first.
- c. [Upcoming Events](#)
 - i. Taste of Latin America with OLU
 1. Friday 9/15 9 pm
 - ii. Words of Hope with Counseling Services
 1. Thursday 9/21 12 - 3 pm Arch (Rain Date: Monday 9/25 12 - 3pm)
 2. Need to sign up before Tuesday September 19th
- d. Start meeting with your liaison if you have not done so already.
 - i. Any problems? Let leadership know.
- e. Holocaust Memorial Statue Rededication
 - i. Wednesday November 8th at 4:30 pm
- f. Integrated Calendar Task Force Focus group at 9/20 General Meeting
 - i. Start thinking of topics or questions you may have
- g. Provost Open House Hours
 - i. Office on the 1st floor of the Mansion
 1. Tuesday September 26th 2:00 - 3:30 pm
 2. Tuesday October 24th 2:00 - 3:30 pm
 3. Thursday November 30th 9:00 - 10:30 am
- h. Morocco Earthquake
 - i. If you would like to help and donate visit please [CCEC Humanitarian Aid](#) website
- i. Opening Proclamation- Latinx Heritage Month
 - i. Monday September 18th 1:15 pm Arch (Rain Location: Pavilion)
- j. Athletics Home Games
 - i. All games are free for Ramapo Students with Ramapo ID

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1. Wednesday September 13th 7:00 pm Men's Soccer vs. Western Connecticut St. - Athletic Center Turf
 2. Saturday September 16th Women's Volleyball Tri-Match vs. FDU-Florham 11:00 am & Pratt Institute 3:00pm - Bradley Center Arena
 3. Saturday September 16th Women's Soccer vs. Neumann 3:00 pm - Athletic Center Turf
- k. Ask, Listen, Refer Training
- i. New Members Only
 - ii. Due October 9th
 - iii. Email with more details coming soon
- l. SGA Fall Training
- i. Saturday September 23rd.
 - ii. Please answer the poll in the GroupMe so we can figure out a time.
- m. WeCare Food Pantry Satellite Program
- i. Please visit [CCEC Food Pantry](#) for more information

VII. Cabinet Reports

- a. Vice President Victor Oluwagbemi
- i. Club Process - No Meeting Today!
 1. Involvement - If you know anyone who is interested in representing a club and want to join the Club Process Committee, please email me either at voluwagb@ramapo.edu or at sgaclubs@ramapo.edu
 2. Club Creation - If you or someone you know is interested in starting a club, please email sgaclubs@ramapo.edu
- b. Secretary Pranish Khanal
- i. No Report
- c. Treasurer Riley Stein
- i. No report
- d. Chief of Staff Paige Duell
- i. Cabinet reports due 9/27
- e. Secretary of Academic Affairs Bibhu Bhatta
- i. We had our first meeting on Wednesday, September 6
- f. Secretary of Commuter Affairs Alan Rosenberg
- i. On Monday I had a great meeting with Jack Nesmith, the commuter affairs advisor. We discussed some questions I had and exchanged ideas on what we could do for commuters this semester.
- g. Secretary of Residential Affairs Agrim Gupta
- i. Nothing to report

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- h. Secretary of Delegate Affairs Sophia Kopreski
 - i. Had the first Delegate Meeting on Monday. Nothing to report.
- i. Secretary of Diversity & Inclusion Madison
 - i. Our second committee meeting will be next Thursday from 6-7 PM in A 106!
 - ii. Please reach out to me if you have any additional concerns you think I should bring up with Rachel Sawyer, as we're meeting next week.
- b. Secretary of Fraternity and Sorority Life Luis Saenz
 - i. First Committee Meeting will be Wednesday 9/20 at 3:30PM (A 105)
- j. Secretary of Governmental Affairs James Pascal
 - i. I meet with my liaison Pat O' Connor at 4 today with Shannon and Victor where we will discuss future government guest speakers.
 - ii. I do want to hear about what policy everyone is interested in being touched upon with a future guest speaker or any other form of engagement that can be done.
- k. Secretary of Programming Christine DeFeo
 - i. Be on the lookout for our first bonding night! (It will be a Friday at 7pm per the GroupMe poll) (I'll make another poll to vote on the actual date later today)
 - ii. If anyone has any programs they would like to see the SGA do, please reach out to me!
 - iii. Meeting with Amanda Riehl next week to discuss Oktoberfest
 - iv. Join mine and Oliver's committee :) (please)
- l. Secretary of Public Relations Oliver Meija
 - i. Having smaller club events highlighted on the SGA instagram
 - ii. Ask Shannon, Agrim, or me for more information
- m. Secretary of Sustainability Kristen Sensi
 - i. First meeting will be next Monday the 18th at 2:30 in G238
- n. Chief Justice Elizabeth Mendicino
 - i. We have selected our candidate for Conduct Justice, they will be voted in at the next senate meeting (Monday 9/18).
 - ii. If you are in a committee that you are not required to be in and there are already a ton of people in it, please join a different committee!
- o. Senate President Madison Weeks
 - i. Approved co-sponsorships for Taste of Latin America and Words of Hope
 - 1. The co-sponsorship form is open on our archway
 - ii. Discussed and clarified liaison reports
 - iii. Open Forum had a lot of good discussions

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1. Sara brought up the idea of a Student Speak Out and possible 60 minute parking spots in the Laurel Courts
 2. Andrew brought to our attention that the vending machine prices vary across campus
- p. Calendar Task Force Victor Oluwagbemi and Madison Weeks
- i. If you have any thoughts on this please bring it up to Madi and Victor

VIII. Public Comment

- a. Rick: Thank you for helping with the flag planting event ceremony on Monday.

IX. Open Forum

- a. James: I am meeting with my liaison today and we are talking about the guests we might invite. Let me know if you have any recommendations or interests.
- b. Oliver: If anyone hasn't sent pictures for headshot please send to omejia@ramapo.edu

X. Adjournment @ 9/13 2:59 PM

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